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FERTILIZER OUTPUT SHOWS INCREASE

Our present phosphate and nitrogen requirements are met by two types of fertilizer. The phosphate fertilizer is made from superphosphate and the nitrogenous fertilizer is made from potassium nitrate, both of which are produced domestically.

Rock phosphate is treated with sulfuric acid so as to convert the twiceleic phosphate into a more soluble compound. This treatment results in a mixture of calcium sulfate (gypsum), monocalcic phosphate and free phosphoric acid. It is this mixture that constitutes the superphosphate

After the liberation, the largest superphosphate factory lay in ruins. By 1946 it was put back into operation. The three-year plan expanded the industry.

In the past there has been a great difficulty in obtaining rock phosphate. A trade agreement was therefore concluded with the USSR to insure an adequate supply of rock phosphate.

Annual production of superphosphete for 1938 was 58,00 tons; 1945, 640 tons; 1946, 2,170 tons; 1947, 18,260 tons; 1948, 39,200 tons; and 1949, [plan.] 70,000 tons.

The production cost for superphosphate is high due to the high world price of rock phosphate. It is therefore necessary to lower the production cost so as to compensate for this high cost of the raw material. Costs will be reduced by increasing the production capacity per man-hour by practicing economy in production, by putting more machines into operation, and by worker competitions.

There is poor organization in the bagging and shipping of fertilizer. To improve this condition, three electric conveyor belts have been put into operation under the five-month plan. A few days ago, the Lanvermayer "gathering and bagging" machine was restored to service by using the corponent parts of two damaged machines. For the fall deliveries, three more
conveyer helts will be put into operation. A large mobile crane will be
used to store the rock phosphate in storage bins. This work was formerly done by hend.

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PERTOLOTER

Every means will be used to lower the production cost. Last year Dr Otto Seidl lowered the production cost by reducing by 8 percent the amount of sulfuric acid used in the manufacture of superphosphate.

Potassium nitrate (Pet selt) is produced synthetically f.om ammon's nitrate and lime.

In 1944 the Peti Nitrogenmuvek, (Pet Nitrogen Plant, Inc.) was bombed. The reconstruction of the plant was begun in 1946 and it started production in 1948. In 1940 the maximum daily production of potassium nitrate of the Peti Nitrogenmuvek was ten carloads, while the present daily average in duction is 19 - 20 carloads.

Yearly potassium nitrate production of the Peti Nitrogenmuvek is as follows (in tons): 1938, 11,000; 1941, 35,900; 1945 /not given/; 1946, 880; 1947, 5,130; 1948, 48,660; and 1949, /plani/ 67,000.

In 1946 and 1947 the plant imported from Russia ammonia nitrate to be used in the manufacture of potassium nitrate. At that time our synthetic industry was not yet fully restored, so Peti Nitrogenmuvek used imported raw material. Many experiments are being conducted in the laboratories of the Peti Nitrogenmuvek for the preparation of artificial fertilizer. The object of the experiments is to produce sombined nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers, so as to reduce the sulfuric acid import requirements for manufacture of fertilizer.

In the spring, 31,000 tons of superphosphate and 34,000 tons of potassium nitrate, and, in the fall, 38,000 tons of superphosphate and 20,000 tons of potassium nitrate, will be delivered under production agreement and paid for in cash and 50-percent credit. In addition, about 7,000 tons of potassium nitrate will be put on the open market during the spring campaign.

The production agreements are between Cukoripari Kozpont, (Sugar Industry Center), the Minosegi Magtermelteto MV (Quality Seed Production Company), and the Gazdasagi Magtermelteto MV (Agricultural Seed Production Company) on the one hand and agricultural cooperatives on the other hand. Actual distribution and sale of fertilizer will be handled by the Mutragya es Movenyvedoszereket Ertekesito MV (Fertilizer and Insecticide Co). About 2,000 cooperatives will be covered by the production agreements.

Since we are producing a surplus of potassium nitrate above our own requirements, a trade agreement was concluded with Egypt in November 1948 to ship 15,000 tons of potassium nitrate to that country during March and April 1949.

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